

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1644

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 2436

FOR AF/C

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, US, AO, BY, CM, CT, CF, GB, RW, CG

SUBJECT: 33RD UNGA BILATERALS

REF: (A) STATE 220330, (B) LIBREVILLE 2045

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED REFTTEL (B) AND BELIEVE OUR COMMENTS RE BILATERAL WITH GABON CONTINUE BE VALID. THERE ARE STILL NO IMPORTANT BILATERAL PROBLEMS OUTSTANDING THAT REQUIRE DISCUSSION. WE CONTINUE RECOMMEND AN INFORMAL MEETING, HOWEVER, TO REASSURE GABONESE OF OUR FRIENDSHIP AND INTEREST IN CONSULTING THEM ON MATTERS OF MUTUAL CONCERN. DEPARTMENT MIGHT THEN TAKE OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE SOME OR ALL OF FOLLOWING RANGE OF QUESTIONS: (A) GABONESE PERCEPTIONS OF HOW THINGS ARE GOING IN SHABA, (B) STATE OF GABONESE RELATIONS WITH HER NEIGHBORS, PARTICULARLY EQUATORIAL GUINEA AND CONGO, (C) GABONESE IMPRESSIONS OF CONDITIONS IN EQUATORIAL GUINEA, (D) IMPACT OF IMF PLAN ON GABONESE DEVELOPMENT OVER NEXT TWO-THREE YEARS, (E) GABONESE

IMPRESSIONS RE EFFICACY OF OAU IN LIGHT OF THEIR OWN PRESIDENT'S RECENT EXPERIENCE.

2. WE THINK IT UNLIKELY GABONESE WILL RAISE ANYTHING SPECIFIC. FONMIN MIGHT TRY TO PROBE OUR RECEPTIVITY TO PRIVATE VISIT BY
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PRESM BONGO LATER THIS YEAR, BUT SINCE WE HAVE HEARD NO MORE HERE, BONGO MAY HAVE DROPPED IDEA.

3. RE SAO TOME, IF FONMIN D'ALVA IS IN NEW YORK, WE THINK IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO HAVE TOUR D'HORIZON WITH HIM. LIST OF SUBJECTS IS VIRTUALLY UNLIMITED. SOME THAT COME TO MIND ARE DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, USG-ANGOLA DEVELOPMENTS, STATE

OF OUR COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS, EVENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN SHABA, AND USG-CUBAN RELATIONS. AS WITH GABON, THERE NO OUTSTANDING BILATERAL ISSUES (ALTHOUGH DEPT COULD, IF IT DESIRED, RAISE QUESTION OF GSTP ADHERENCE TO NPT AND INQUIRE RE GSTP PLANS TO ACCREDIT AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON), BUT WE SO RARELY GET CHANCE TO DISCUSS MAJOR ISSUES OF DAY WITH SAO TOME THAT D'ALVA-MOOSE MEETING COULD BE MOST USEFUL IN GETTING OUR POINTS OF VIEW ACROSS AND LISTENING TO THEIRS. UNLIKE GABON, HOWEVER, D'ALVA MIGHT WELL RAISE QUESTION OF USG ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO TELL THEM WHY IT APPARENTLY IS NOT IN CARDS. TIENKEN

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